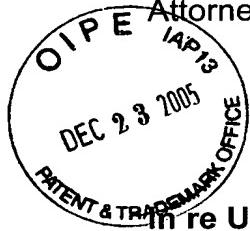


U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/716,505
Attorney Docket: FLOO3001/JEK



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application
Dale A. FLOOD

Examiner: Clifford C. Shaw

Serial Number: 10/716,505

Group Art Unit: 1725

Confirmation Number: 5621
Filed: November 20, 2003

Attorney Docket: FLOO3001/JEK

For: **PROCESS FOR WELDING**

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 223213-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is responsive to the Official Action mailed June 23, 2005. A timely petition to extend the shortened statutory term for response to the Office Action is submitted herewith including the requisite fee.

Reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the comments that follow.

AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The specification is amended as shown on the following page under the heading AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims are amended as shown on the following page under the heading LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS.